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JAN 21 2004

**T :** Examiner David Naff

**From:** Andrew T. Karnakis  
Chief Patent Counsel

**C mpany:** USPTO

**Tel:** 508.383.7406

OFFICIAL

**Fax:** 703-872-9306 **E-Mail:** karnakat@appliedbiosystems.com

**Date:** January 21, 2004 **Pages:** 9 (including cover sheet):

**Re:** RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED SEPTEMBER 30, 2003  
Serial No. 09/889,711 - Filed July 18, 2001  
Our Ref : SYP-159

**cc:** **cc:** **cc:**

## Comments/Notes:

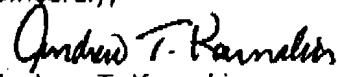
Dear Examiner Naff:

Attached is a response to be filed in connection with the referenced Office Action.

Also attached is a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 CFR 1.136(a).

I look forward to discussing this response with you should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

  
Andrew T. Karnakis  
Reg. No. 27,909

OFFICIAL

Case N . SYP-159

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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JAN 21 2004

Appl. No. : 09/889,711  
Applicant(s) : Bienvenut et al.  
Filed : 07/18/2001  
TC/A.U. : 1651  
Examiner : Naff, David M.  
For : METHOD AND KIT FOR  
IDENTIFYING OR  
CHARACTERIZING POLYPEPTIDES

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to Examiner David Naff at the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax. No. <u>703-872-9306</u> ) on	
Date:	<u>January 21, 2004</u>
Signature:	<u>Patricia E. Tocci</u>
Type Name of Depositing Party:	Patricia Tocci

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on September 30, 2003 (the "Office Action") in connection with the above-identified patent application, Applicants submit this Amendment and Response. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

A petition and appropriate fee for a one-month extension of time, up to and including January 30, 2004, are submitted herewith. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6.